







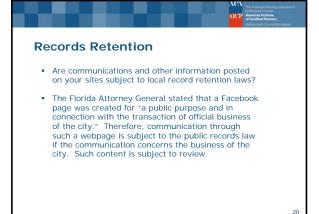


Disadvantages of Relying on Social Networking in the Land Use Context Discrimination in the Land Use Process • Certain community voices will not be heard in the process • Internet use differences have been found between economic classes, age, culture identity and education levels.

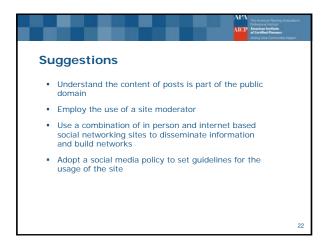
Social Networking is Not a Replacement for In-Person Communication Although social networking offers quick and efficient solutions to participation in the planning process, a question remains as to whether cyberspace can adequately replace real-time and face-to-face questions and answers that town meetings provide.

Part Two: Legal Issues – More Questions than Answers? 1. Open Meetings Act and Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Compliance 2. First Amendment and Privacy Issues 3. Discrimination 4. Copyright Issues 5. Who speaks for the government?

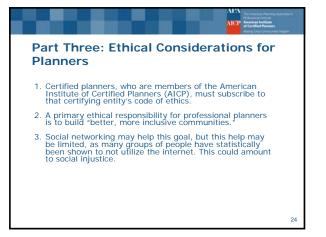




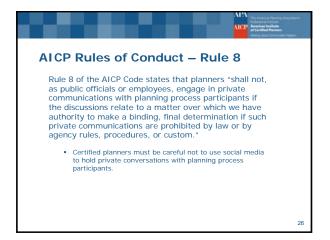


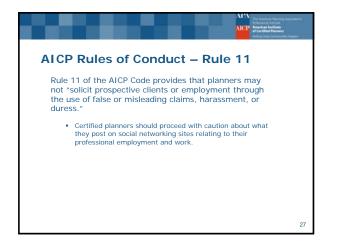






AICP Rules of Conduct — Rule 1 Rule 1 requires planners to provide "adequate, timely, clear, and accurate information on planning issues." • Certified planners have an obligation not to post misinformation on social networking sites. AICP Rules of Conduct — Rule 7 Rule 7 of the AICP Code protects client confidences from being exposed by planners. • Certified planners must be careful not to inadvertently share confidential information when discussing specific projects on a social networking site.





AICP Rules of Conduct – Rule 19 Rule 19 of the AICP Code prohibits the failure to disclose the interests of the planner's client or employer when participating in the planning process and also prohibits participation in an effort to conceal the true interests of a client or employer. • Certified planners should be mindful of the need to self-identify and to identify who their clients are when they post information and comments to social media sites.

Ethical Considerations for Quasi-Judicial Bodies

- Zoning boards of appeal at times function in a quasijudicial capacity in that they are vested with authority to be neutral decision makers in the planning process.
- Therefore, it is useful to consider local and state judicial advisory opinions as persuasive guidance as to how zoning board members should conduct themselves on social networking sites.

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Impropriety Integrity in the system must be maintained, and the use of social networking does not change this. Listing "friends" that are attorneys, witnesses, or parties to the matter can be an issue, as it could cause impressions of impropriety to other judges, such as that the judge might favor one attorney over another in his court. Similarly, zoning boards should not be able to favor one party over another in a matter because of their personal relationship through social networking, as they have a duty of impartiality to their constituents.

